

DEC 13 2002

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 367A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#7

In re Application of: Thomas R. Boyer, et al.)
Serial No.: 09/844,566)
Filed: April 27, 2001)
For: POLISHING FIXTURE ASSEMBLY FOR)
A FIBER OPTIC CABLE CONNECTOR)
POLISHING APPARATUS)

Group Art Unit: 3723

Examiner: McDonald, Shantese

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir/Madam:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 198, Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1) and is accompanied by the Certification fee of \$180.00. Applicant respectfully petitions and requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies these documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability

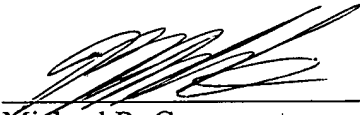
of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Please charge Deposit Account 50-0308 in the amount required by 37 C.R.F. § 1.17(p) for amount of \$180.00. If there are any addition fee(s) due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee(s) to our Deposit Account No. 50-0308

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 13, 2002

By:



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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir/Madam:

CO-PENDING LETTER

Under the provisions of MPEP § 2001.06(b), the Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. Application(s):

<u>Appl. No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group</u>
09/844,573	April 27, 2001	3723

The subject matter contained in the above-listed co-pending U.S. application(s) may be deemed to relate to the present application, and thus may be material to the prosecution of this instant application.

The above-listed co-pending application(s) is(are) not to be construed as prior art. By bringing the above-listed application(s) to the attention of the Examiner, Applicant(s) do(does) NOT waive any confidentiality concerning the above-listed co-pending application(s) or this application. See MPEP § 101. Furthermore, if said application(s) should not mature into patents,

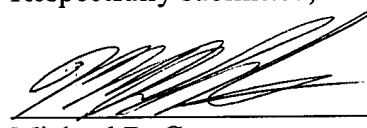
such application(s) should be preserved in secrecy under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.14.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0308.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 13, 2002

By:



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